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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,933	02/04/2004	Yih-Fang Chiou	04117-URS	6066

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EXAMINER

ALÈMU, EPHREM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2821

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,933

Applicant(s)

CHIOU, YIH-FANG

Examiner

Ephrem Alemu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: See Continuation Sheet.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 6). Other: Efficient Safety Circuit For Electronic Ballast by Michael Bairanzade, Motorola Inc., March 1998.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted structural cooperative relationships are: (1) In claim 1, lines 4-5, the recitation “.... the control circuit connects an output terminal P8 of the electronic ballast...” omits the essential structural relationship between the output terminals of the electronic ballast with respect to the fluorescent lamp since electronic ballast has more than one output terminal, without the structural relationship between the output terminals of the electronic ballast with respect to the fluorescent lamp the output terminal P8 cannot be determined.

(2) In claim 1, lines 16-17, the recitation “.... is connected to a junction between a resistor R5 and a resistor R1 inside the electronic ballast...” omits the essential structural relationship of the second end of resistor R5 and the second end of the resistor R1 inside the electronic ballast, which will create a gap for the claimed limitation that will raise issue whether the claimed control circuit for the electronic ballast being operable.

(3) In claim 1, lines 18-19, the recitation “.... the diode D11 is connected to a terminal P3 of a primary winding T1A of a driving transformer of the electronic ballast” omits the essential structural relationship of the terminals of the primary winding T1A of the driving transformer

with respect to the electronic ballast will create a gap for the claimed limitation that will raise issue whether the claimed control circuit for the electronic ballast being operable

(4) In claim 1, lines 26-28, the recitation "... is connected to a terminal P4 of a fluorescent lamp tube's filaments..." omits the essential structural relationship of the terminals of the fluorescent lamp with respect to the electronic ballast. The recitation can be broadly interpreted as if terminal P4 is a terminal that connects all four terminals of the first and second filaments of the fluorescent lamp's that will cause the claimed control circuit for the electronic ballast inoperable.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph as being dependent over a rejected base claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3 would be allowable if claim 1 is rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The claims will be allowable, if the claims are amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph as set forth in paragraph 2 above, in such a way the claimed subject matter can be interpreted as depicted in Fig. 1.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Stack (US 6,781,326 & US 6,222,322); Konopka (US 6,501,225); Hesterman (US

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5,635,799); Sun (US 5,635,799); and Michael Bairanzade, Efficient Safety Circuit For Electronic Ballast, Motorola Inc., March 1998; also teach similar inventive subject matter. However the prior art listed above neither teach nor disclose the control circuit as depicted in Fig. 1.

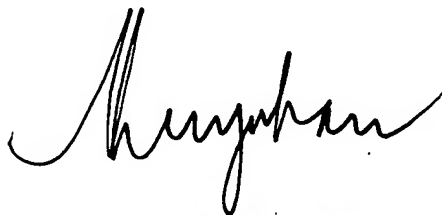
Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ephrem Alemu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1818. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F Flex hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don K. Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EA
2-15-05


THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER